

## Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CU-02 L-03 NSF-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01

SS-15 SP-02 MMS-01 PER-01 ABF-01 AID-05 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 /050 R

DRAFTED BY OES:AEPARDEE; AERICHMOND;FK

APPROVED BY OES/EX: ARTHUR E. PARDEE, JR.

EA/EX: EECHAMPAGNE

EA/K: JFORBES

OES/ENP/EN:BLONG

CU/EA: ABALL

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R 161918Z JUN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN

SUBJECT: US-ROK BILATERAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

COOPERATION AND ESTABLISHMENT SCIENCE

ATTACHE POSITION

REF: SEOUL 3399

(A) POST-AID S&T COOPERATION

1. WHILE DEPARTMENT CONCURS IN DESIRABILITY OF DEVELOPING  
A VIABLE POST-AID S&T COOPERATIVE RELATION WITH THE ROKG,  
WE SEE PROBLEMS WITH THE SUGGESTION THAT AN ORGANIZATION  
ANALOGUS TO THE U.S.-ISRAEL BINATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION  
(BNSF) BE ESTABLISHED AS A VEHICLE. FOREMOST IS THE  
QUESTION OF FUNDING. BNSF WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1972 BY AN  
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INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT, AND OPERATES ON THE INTEREST  
(2.2 MILLION/YR. AT 3.5) GENERATED BY \$60 MILLION  
CONTRIBUTED EQUALLY BY THE USG AND GOI AND DEPOSITED IN  
THE BANK OF ISRAEL. THE U.S. CONTRIBUTION WAS GENERATED

BY EARLY PREPAYMENT (IN ISRAELI POUNDS) BY ISRAEL OF CERTAIN OBLIGATIONS DUE THE U.S. UNDER PL-480 (ISRAEL AT THAT TIME HAD EXCESS CURRENCY STATUS). THE GOI CONTRIBUTION WAS ALSO IN ISRAELI POUNDS. SINCE ROG IS NOT AN EXCESS

CURRENCY COUNTRY, THE ISRAELI FINANCING MODEL COULD NOT BE USED. PRESUMABLY ANY U.S. FUNDING WOULD HAVE TO BE THROUGH APPROPRIATION PROCESS.

2. ROKG PROPOSAL ALSO DIFFERS FROM BNSF, AS NOTED REFTTEL, IN THAT IT WOULD INITIALLY EMPHASIZE ASSISTANCE TO THE EDUCATIONAL SECTOR. THE BNSF SUPPORTS ONLY RESEARCH AND DOES NOT GIVE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS OR ENGAGE IN SECTORAL ASSISTANCE. THIS LIMITATION WAS AGREED ON IN ORDER TO INSURE THAT BNSF REMAINED A COOPERATIVE ENTERPRISE FOR MUTUAL BENEFIT (ALL RESEARCH IS JOINT U.S.-ISRAEL) AND DID NOT BECOME A VEHICLE PURELY FOR TECHNICAL OR DEVELOPMENTAL ASSISTANCE PER SE.

3. WITH THE ABOVE RESERVATIONS IN MIND, WE ARE WILLING TO EXPLORE WITH ROKG CLOSER COOPERATIVE LINKS IN S&T AND APPROPRIATE MECHANISMS FOR FOSTERING THESE. WE WILL EXAMINE CAREFULLY ROKG PROPOSAL WHICH HAS NOW ARRIVED TO SEE IF THEY PRESENT A BASIS FOR INSTITUTING TALKS TO THIS END.

(B) SCIENCE ATTACHE POSITION

1. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES EMBASSY'S GROWING CONCERN ON

THE NEED FOR A SCIENCE ATTACHE POSITION AT SEOUL. HOWEVER, AT PRESENT TIME THERE ARE NOT SCIENCE ATTACHE POSITIONS AVAILABLE WITHIN CURRENT RESOURCES WHICH CAN BE TRANSFERRED TO THE EMBASSY. EFFORTS ARE BEING MADE TO INCREASE NUMBER OF ATTACHE POSITIONS INCLUDING A PROPOSED POSITION FOR SEOUL. IT IS DIFFICULT AT THIS TIME (DESPITE OUR BEST EFFORTS) TO JUDGE HOW THIS WILL PROGRESS. ALTERNATE SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM MIGHT BE POSSIBLE IF EMBASSY IS ABLE  
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TO REPROGRAM POSITION FROM WITHIN PRESENT AUTHORIZED COMPLEMENT TO ESTABLISH ATTACHE POSITION. ADVISE. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** TGEN, KS, US  
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